

Message Text

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TAGS: TGEN/TBIO UR US

SUBJECT: USSR MEDICAL PROGRAMS: SOME FIGURES AND A NEW DIRECTION

1. BRITISH SCICOUNS HAS ADVISED US THAT, DURING HM AMBASSADOR'S INITIAL CALL ON HEALTH MINISTER PETROVSKIY, LATTER DESCRIBED, IN SATISFIED TERMS, SOVIET PROGRESS AND PLANS IN EDUCATING PHYSICIANS, BUT VOICED DISCONTENT OVER SITUATION WITH SOVIET DENTISTRY.

2. PETROVSKIY REPORTEDLY STATED THAT SOVIET PHYSICIAN (VRACH) POPULATION IS NOW GREATER THAN EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND, AND THAT EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM TURNS OUT FIFTY THOUSAND A YEAR. PETROVSKIY STATED THAT EQUILIBRIUM FIGURE WILL BE 1.2 MILLION, OR ONE PHYSICIAN PER 200 POPULATION.

3. AT SAME TIME, PETROVSKIY EXPRESSED DISMAY OVER QUANTITY (AND QUALITY) OF SOVIET DENTISTS, WHO NUMBER ABOUT ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND. PETROVSKIY SAID THAT SOVIET DENTAL TRAINING IS BEING COMPLETELY OVERHAULED, AND THAT NEW SYSTEM WILL REQUIRE FIRST THE NORMAL SIX YEARS' STUDY TO OBTAIN VRACH DEGREE, FOLLOWED BY ONE TO TWO YEARS' SPECIALIZATION IN DENTISTRY.

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